Attorney Docket No. 10559-346001
Serial No.: 09/680,665
Amendment dated January 7, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated October 9, 2003

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

An Application Data Sheet is provided showing the Israeli priority.

Claim 15 stands objected to as not being shown in the drawings. This contention is respectfully traversed. In fact, the subject matter of claim 15 is clearly shown in figure 4. For example, the multiplexers 7_s and 7_1 read under the first set of multiplexers; the multiplexers 8_s and 8_1 read under the second set of multiplexers, and the multiplexers 8_r read under the "multiplexer".

The abstract stands objected to as not being in proper format. In response, a new abstract is provided herein.

Claims 1-15 stands rejected under 35 USC 102, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In response, these claims are amended herewith for definiteness.

Claims 1-8 stand rejected as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In response, these claims are rewritten to recite interaction with aspects of a digital communication. For example, as amended, claim 1 requires

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receiving the digital communications signal, and arranging that into an rxm matrix. This by itself would be sufficient to establish statutory subject matter. In addition, the method requires interacting with that matrix, thus further evidencing the statutory condition of that claim.

Claims 9-14 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 as allegedly being anticipated by Bui. Claims 1-12 stand rejected as being obvious over Steven. These contentions are respectfully traversed, and moreover it is respectfully suggested that all of the claims should be in condition for allowance.

Initially, and prior to describing the rejection, it is noted that claim 15 was indicated as allowable. Claim 9 was amended to include the limitations of claims 14 and 15 therein, and as amended, it is respectfully suggested that this claim should be allowable without argument.

This leaves only the rejection of claims 1-12 based on Steven. Claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitations of arranging the communication signal into a matrix and processing the matrix in a way that ensures that there are no duplicate rows within the matrix. Specifically, claim 1 specifies storing information in memory about omitted rows in the matrix that are duplicates of other rows in the matrix and selected rows that are not duplicate. Zero columns of the matrix, and duplicate

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columns of the matrix are removed, and an output vector which is indicative of the digital communication is formed in this way.
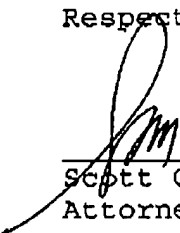
This system is completely patentable over the cited prior art which does not in anyway teach or suggest these operations. Specifically, the cited prior art does not teach removing both zero rows and duplicate rows from that matrix.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, therefore, all of the claims should be in condition for allowance. A formal notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/7/04

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Attachment: Application Data Sheet
10351995.doc

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